

## CLAIMS

1. A coating method providing conveying means for conveying an object to be coated in a predetermined direction, and a plural number of sprayer units arranged at intervals in the conveying direction of said conveying means,

a coating surface of an object to be coated is divided into a plural number of coating areas, and

adjacent coating areas of said plural number of coating areas are respectively coated by different sprayer units, characterized in that:

said individual sprayer units perform coating while reciprocating along said coating areas substantially parallel to the conveying direction of said object; and

when said sprayer units are reciprocating substantially parallel to said conveying direction of said object, positions of turning paths for reciprocation, located at a boundary between adjacent coating areas, are sequentially shifted from the front side to the rear side in said conveying direction of said object, and coating is performed while forming a coating trajectory of said turning paths like a series of steps.

2. A coating method as defined in claim 1,

characterized in that; at first parallel transit path of parallel transit paths for reciprocation of said sprayer units being start positions of coating trajectories in said individual coating areas, coating is performed while moving  
5 said sprayer units from front side to rear side in said conveying direction, and at last parallel transit path being end positions of said coating trajectories in said individual coating areas, coating is performed while moving said sprayer units from front side to rear side in said conveying  
10 direction.

3. A coating method as defined in claim 1, characterized in that; said parallel transit paths for reciprocation of said sprayer units are aligned substantially  
15 linearly in said adjacent coating areas.

4. A coating method as defined in claim 1, characterized in that; coating is performed in a manner that the positions of terminal ends of parallel transit paths in  
20 one direction for said reciprocation of said sprayer units and start ends of parallel transit paths in return direction are shifted from the front side to the rear side in said conveying direction of said object.

5. A coating method as defined in claim 1,  
characterized in that; coating is performed in the manner that  
paint is sprayed by said sprayer unit at parallel transit path  
5 and is cut at said turning paths for said reciprocation during  
said reciprocation of said sprayer unit.